WHAT THE VMAS DIDN'T SHOW ON TELEVISION

METRO WAS THERE AND SAW A VERY DIFFERENT SHOW PAGES 08-09

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Tuesday, August 27, 2013 www.metro.us | t:MetroPhilly | f:MetroPhilly

SHARE THE WEALTH

All about money. Many entities throughout the city will pay for bike share stations on their streets. **Location.** Whether they will be available at shelters, low-income housing units and welfare offices remains to be seen. PAGE 02

The city has nailed down two bike vendors for next year's bike share program. / FILE PHOTO

John Kerry accuses Syria in gas cover-up

PAGE 06

Adopting a foster child is not what you think

PAGE 16

Think you can pull off the Don Draper do?

PAGE 15

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1 NEWS

Top 3

What's trending at Metro.us

1 'The Word: Watch Miley Cyrus' insane VMAs performance'

2 'PHOTOS: Drive-in sex boxes are open for business in Switzerland'

3 'VIDEO: Little girl, baby gorilla kiss'

Local Tweet

"Again: #PhillyCouncil opposes Corbett's sales tax legislation as written. @Darrell_Clarke seeks fairer treatment of #PhillyEducation."

@Jane_Roh, Council President Darrell Clarke's communications director Jane Roh, on opposition to Gov. Corbett's sales tax plan

Putting the 'share' in bike share program

Balance. Bike share officials are negotiating between the need to raise private dollars and serve low-income users.

Mayor Nutter checks out B-cycle, a possible bike share vendor. / FILE PHOTO

Kristin Gavin, founder of the Gearing Up cycling program for women in transition, raised some interesting questions about the city's planned bike share program, slated to roll out next year with a network of about 200 stations stretching from the Navy Yard to Lehigh Avenue and from the Delaware River to 52nd Street.

"Let's think creatively here: Where is the Criminal Justice Center? Where is probation and parole? And are there going to be stations near welfare?" Gavin asked. "Are there going to be stations that make this great bike share tool accessible to all individuals, not just folks going from 20th and Market to City Hall?"

Those are some issues with which the city will be dealing as it chooses bike share station locations, which will be done through a combination of crowdsourcing and at community group meetings, as well as by partnering with private landowners, who will be guaranteed station placement only if they agree to foot the bill.

Andrew Stober, of the Mayor's Office of Transportation and Utilities, said it boils down to pure economics. "This is really about helping us deploy our public funds in the best way, so it doesn't make a lot of sense for us to be paying public dollars when someone will pay private dollars," he said. "For instance, Brandywine Property Trust, [which] owns the Cira Center in Philadelphia, said, 'This is going to be a great amenity. ... We want to pay for a station there.' That's great news for us."

As the last major Northeast city to get a bike share program, Philadelphia is uniquely positioned to learn from others, he says.

"We have an opportunity that hasn't been realized in other cities, in terms of meeting the transportation needs of low-income residents," he said.

"There's no one who needs affordable transportation more than low-income folks, and bike trips are really best when they're three miles or less. In many of the other cities, people who are living on low incomes live more than three miles from their jobs, from major commercial hubs and from recreation hubs, and that's not true in Philadelphia," Stober added.

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
awigglesworth@metro.us

Nuts and bolts

The total capital cost of the bike share program is estimated to be $10 million to $15 million — $3 million of which would come from this year's city budget.

- Officials also applied for a $6 million federal TIGER grant and will this week travel to Washington to meet with the secretary of transportation.
- The city will this fall issue a request for proposals for a firm to manage and operate the program. Two front-runners are B-cycle and Alta Bicycle Share.

Quoted

"We feel in the current environment, the only way the system is going to be successful is if it has significant private sector support."

Stober

Sentenced. Man gets jail time in Facebook intimidation case

A judge yesterday sentenced Freddie Henriquez, 20, to 11 1/2 to 23 months in prison for posting threatening photos and messages on his Facebook page last November.

Henriquez, who had no prior criminal record, pleaded guilty in June to a felony charge of witness intimidation.

Prosecutors said after a woman arrested last year as part of a conspiracy to straw purchase firearms agreed to cooperate as a witness, Henriquez obtained a copy of her statement to police and posted it on his Facebook page, labeling her a "rat." METRO

Escape

Shoplifting suspects injure trooper

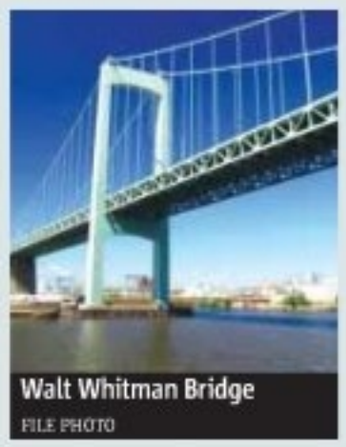
A Delaware State Police trooper was injured Sunday night after a van filled with five shoplifting suspects fleeing a Newark Home Depot crashed into his patrol car, according to police. The officer was treated and released from Christiana Hospital. METRO

Alternate route

WW Bridge will close for work

The Walt Whitman Bridge will be closed early this morning and tonight into Wednesday morning as a four-year, $140 million re-decking project wraps up.

Bridge on-ramps will be closed around 11 p.m. tonight. The bridge will be closed to traffic in both directions between midnight and 4 a.m. in the morning. METRO



Walt Whitman Bridge
FILE PHOTO

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Corbett asked education chief to resign

Ousted. Gov. Tom Corbett asked for, and received, William Harner's resignation.

The state's secretary of education submitted his resignation yesterday after it was requested by Gov. Tom Corbett, the governor's office announced Monday.

William Harner, 56, was never even sworn in. He took office on June 1.

Harner, a Carlisle resident, previously served five years as superintendent for Cumberland Valley School District in Mechanicsburg. He is a 1974 graduate of Cheltenham High School in Montgomery County.

Carolyn Dumaresq, the department's executive deputy secretary, will serve as acting secretary of education, effective immediately, according to a news release.

Dumaresq, of Harrisburg, formerly served as superintendent at Central Dauphin and Steelton-Highspire school districts. She taught on a college level at the Harrisburg campuses of Temple and Penn State universities.

She earned her master's degree from Villanova University and her doctorate in education from the University of Pennsylvania.

She served as executive director of the Pennsylvania State Education Association and president of the Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators. Dumaresq worked for the state Department of Education from 1976 to 1983, and then joined the department again in 2011, according to a news release. METRO

The rundown

Gov. Corbett nominated William Harner as Education Secretary in mid-May.

- He was slated to replace Ron Tomalis.
- He did not give a reason for the resignation.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD PHILADELPHIA HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Philadelphia Housing Authority (PHA) is a participant in the Moving to Work Demonstration Program (MTW). PHA was initially selected to participate in the MTW Program in 2001. In October 2008, PHA entered into an Amended and Restated Moving to Work Agreement ("MTW Agreement") with the US Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD"), which has subsequently been further amended.

The MTW Agreement defines the terms and conditions under which PHA is a participant in the MTW Program. The MTW Agreement requires that PHA submit an MTW Annual Plan for HUD review and approval. PHA's current MTW Annual Plan for MTW Year Thirteen (PHA Fiscal Year 2014) was approved by HUD on May 30, 2013.

PHA is seeking public review and comments on two proposed actions relative to the MTW Program:

- **Amendment to the MTW Agreement** – The proposed amendment to the MTW Agreement will provide PHA with additional flexibility in utilizing Replacement Housing Factor funds received by PHA from HUD.
- **Amendment to the MTW Year Thirteen Annual Plan** – The proposed amendment to the MTW Annual Plan will: 1) Establish that PHA may apply to convert one or more public housing sites under the Rental Assistance Demonstration Program and that PHA may utilize MTW Block Grant funds to support the conversion; and, 2) Allow PHA to establish a flexible subsidy program for newly developed or acquiredpublic housing units, subject to HUD review and approval of each transaction.

Additional information regarding the proposed amendments is available from PHA. Copies are available for public review on PHA's website at: www.pha.phila.gov under the "Latest News" section or may be picked up at the following locations:

- **Housing Choice Voucher Program Office:** 2850 Germantown Ave 1st & 2nd Floor
- **Scattered Sites Management Offices:** 3417 Spring Garden Street, 1821 Vineyard St. 3226 McMichael St., 3218 Susquehanna Avenue, 400 W. Huntingdon St.
- **Public Housing Management Offices:** Bartram - 5404 Gibson Drive, Wilson Park - 2500 Jackson St., Raymond Rosen – 2110 N. 23rd St., Blumberg - 2311 W. Jefferson St.

PHA residents, Housing Choice Voucher participants and the general public may attend and provide comments at the Public Hearing described below and/or submit written comments on these proposed actions any time during the comment period. The Public Hearing is scheduled for the following time and location: **August 27, 2013 10 a.m. until noon, 1100 Poplar Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123, Multipurpose Room.**

Only comments pertaining to the proposed actions noted above are being solicited. The comment period begins on August 6, 2013 at 12 noon and ends September 5, 2013 at 12 noon. All comments must be received by the end of the comment period. Please send your writtencomments to: **Philadelphia Housing Authority, Office of Policy, Research and Enterprise Planning, Attention: MTW Comment, 1606 Swain St., Philadelphia, PA 19130.**

The Public Hearing is being held in an accessible location. If you require assistance, sign language interpreter or other accommodations, please call 215-684-4000. Please use the AT&T Relay Service for TTY.

Philadelphia Housing Authority
Building Beyond Expectations

Shooting

Gas station attendant killed in NJ

A gas station attendant was shot and killed in Woodbury, Gloucester County, on Sunday night.

The victim has been identified as Surinder Singh, 40, of Woodbury.

The shooting was an apparent robbery at Garden State Fuel at about 9:15 p.m. Authorities have not yet discussed a possible motive. Police seek two men as suspects. METRO

Arrest

Woman charged in baby death

A 26-year-old woman has been arrested about a week after she gave birth in a Lower Saucon Township, Northampton County bar bathroom and attempted to flush the fetus, officials said.

Amanda Catherine Hein, of Allentown, said she knew she was pregnant and went into labor at Starters Pub on Aug. 18.

She is facing a criminal homicide charge. METRO

Now all under one roof

The Philadelphia Safety Collaborative opened the doors yesterday to its new 42,000-square-foot facility, at 300 E. Hunting Park Ave., which brings all of the city's sexual-abuse investigative services together in one building.

REKARD LARMA, METRO

Recovering. Lung transplant recipient, 11, will be released

Sarah Murnaghan, the 11-year-old Pennsylvania girl whose parents filed a lawsuit challenging national transplant policies so she could receive a double lung transplant, will be released from the hospital this week, a family spokeswoman said yesterday.

Sarah underwent an operation earlier this summer to receive the transplants in a case that set off a national debate about child access to organ donations.

She had earlier been diagnosed with cystic fibrosis.

A federal judge cleared the way for the operation in June after her parents sued to stop the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services from enforcing a policy that prevents children under 12 from receiving adult lung transplants.

The Murnaghan family's spokeswoman Tracy Simon said that Sarah, who has been hospitalized for six months, will be released this week from the Children's Hospital in Philadelphia.

"Her new lungs are doing great," Simon said.

Hospital officials were not immediately able to confirm plans to release Murnaghan.

Sarah had her first lung transplant on June 12, but complications forced a second transplant several days later.

Her recovery is now focused on helping Sarah rebuild the strength in her legs and arms as well as the muscles around her lungs, Simon added.

Sarah's family is also working to arrange home care for her once she leaves the hospital, she added. REUTERS

The road to recovery

The family spokeswoman said Sarah was walking short distances with the help of a walker.

- She no longer receives oxygen through a vent, but still uses a machine to help her breathe.
- She recovered from a pneumonia she caught from being intubated, the spokeswoman said.

Still waiting on a cause

A day later, officials survey the damage to St. Mary to the Protectress Ukrainian Church after a four-alarm fire Sunday severely burned the nearly 100-year-old church.

RIKARD LARMA, METRO

Stolen

Police seek guitar thief

Delaware State Police are looking for a man suspected of stealing a $1,500 Gibson electric guitar Aug. 14 from a Dover music shop. He allegedly removed the guitar from the wall at Earle Teat Music while an employee was busy. METRO

Revenue

Convention Center creates $728M impact

The Pennsylvania Convention Center Authority during the past year hosted 226 events, resulting in a regional impact of $728 million, the PCCA announced yesterday. Officials further announced the Center received a 6 percent increase in hotel tax revenues, clocking in at $28.9 million, while event revenues increased to $14 million.

Operating expenses were $3.2 million below previous budget projections, causing the Center to return $9.8 million in hotel taxes to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. METRO

Pennsylvania Convention Center / FILE PHOTO

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Kerry: The use of chemical weapon in Syria 'undeniable'

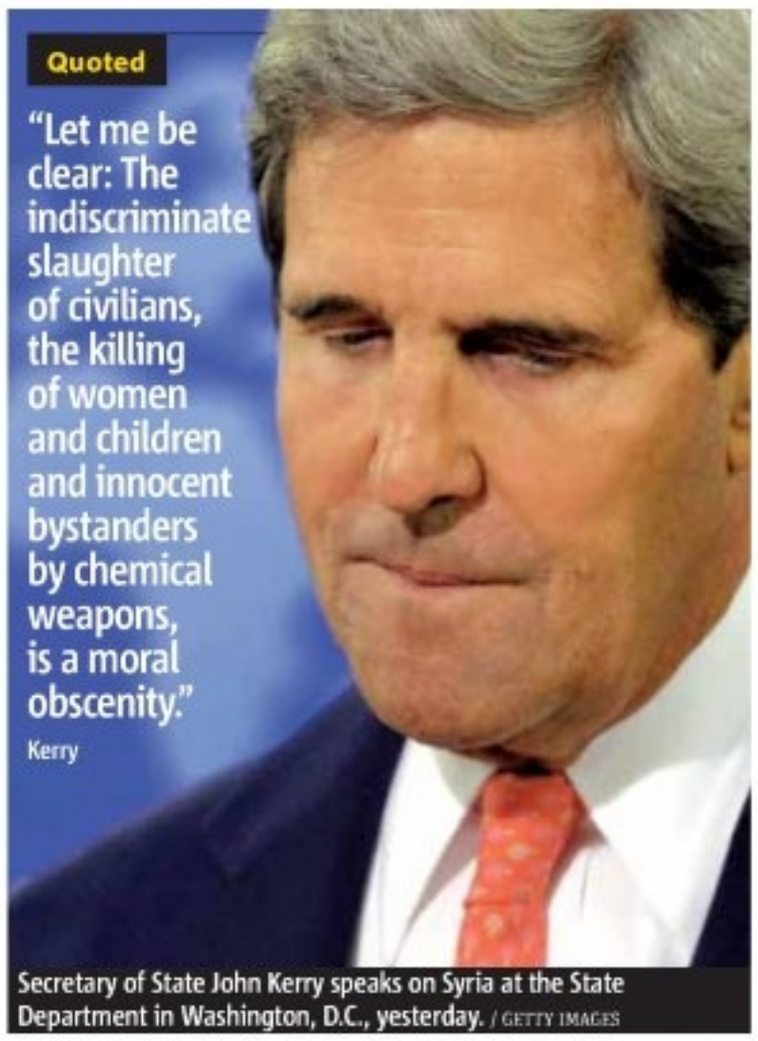
Frontline

Inspectors reach gas victims despite being fired upon

U.N. chemical weapons experts interviewed and took blood samples yesterday from victims of last week's apparent poison gas attack in a rebel-held suburb of Syria's capital, after the inspectors themselves survived sniper fire that hit their convoy.

Military chiefs from the United States and its European and Middle Eastern allies met in Jordan for what could be a council of war — should they decide to punish Syria for the attack.

U.N. investigators crossed the frontline from the center of the capital, which remains under Assad's control, to inspect the Mouadamiya suburb, one of at least four neighborhoods hit by the poison gas last Wednesday before dawn. REUTERS


Quoted
"Let me be clear: The indiscriminate slaughter of civilians, the killing of women and children and innocent bystanders by chemical weapons, is a moral obscenity."
Kerry
Secretary of State John Kerry speaks on Syria at the State Department in Washington, D.C., yesterday. / GETTY IMAGES

Action. Obama has been reluctant to intervene in two and a half years of civil war in Syria.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said yesterday that the evidence of a massive deadly chemical attack last week was "undeniable" and accused the Syrian government of trying to cover it up, signaling that the United States was edging closer to a possible military response.

In the most forceful U.S. reaction yet after the suspected gas attack outside Damascus, Kerry said President Barack Obama "believes there must be accountability for those who would use the world's most heinous weapons against the world's most vulnerable people."

"What we saw in Syria last week should shock the conscience of the world," Kerry told reporters.

Kerry accused the government of President Bashar al-Assad of acting like it had something to hide by blocking the U.N. inspectors' visit to the scene for days and shelling the area.

The information so far, including videos and accounts from the ground, indicate that chemical weapons were used in Syria, he said.

"It is undeniable," he said, adding that it was the Syrian government that maintained custody of chemical weapons and had the rockets capable of delivering them. REUTERS

Defense secretary

US would only act on Syria with international community

The United States would only take action on Syria in concert with the international community and with legal justification in response to the alleged chemical weapons attacks in Damascus, U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said yesterday.

Hagel, speaking on a trip to Indonesia, declined to discuss U.S. military options under consideration by the White House, or to say whether he thought a military response was likely. REUTERS

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How employers view online degrees

Cyber Ed. What matters most is where you got your degree — not how.

Swapping the lecture hall for a laptop doesn't mean your degree doesn't measure up. / GETTY IMAGES/BRAND X

"Online degree" used to have a negative connotation. But as these degrees become more common, employers aren't looking down on them anymore. In fact, a quick Internet search will show that more and more accredited colleges are adding online courses to the curriculum. And not the occasional online class, either: We're talking full degrees earned entirely on the Web.

Drexel University, which offers both traditional and online learning, released an infographic depicting how employers view online degrees. "To create the infographic, our team looked at research studies conducted by a variety of news publications, career groups, and educational organizations," says Andrew Meyer, associate at SEER Interactive, who helped create the project. "We gathered the data and found common themes that, when woven together, began to tell a story about traditional and online degrees. We knew that university name recognition was a factor in hiring decisions, but we were surprised to find just how important it was."

Quoted

"The No. 1 advertisement for any program is the quality of people that come out of it."

Frank Mulgrew
President of the Online Education Institute at Post University

Frank Mulgrew agrees. He's a former Drexel employee who managed traditional and online programs. Currently, he is president of the Online Education Institute at Post University. "The No. 1 advertisement for any program is the quality of people that come out of it. Alumni that are respected and successful reflect well on the institution, regardless of how they earned the degree," says Mulgrew. Many employers understand that a college with a strong traditional core will likely have quality online courses as well.

According to Chris Cullen, managing director at the brand strategy agency Infinia Group, relevance of a degree matters even more than where it was received. "The notable exception would be the Ivies and 'Ivy Plus' institutions. In general, as long as the credential is relevant and comes from an established, reputable institution, it carries much more weight than a course or credential that is less relevant and comes from a prestigious brick-and-mortar institution," says Cullen.

JULIA WEST
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CULTURE

They said it

The stars' fave VMA moments

At the InTouch Icons & Idols VMA after-party, celebs had opinions on who stole the night:

Nick Cannon, Mr. Mariah Carey: "Justin and Drake. Justin was onstage for like 45 minutes, so you gotta have force. I liked Drake's performance, too, though. They both did their thing."

Ronnie Ortiz-Magro, "Jersey Shore": "Lady Gaga. It seems like you didn't know who she was. She kept switching it up. She kept you on your feet, and that's what you wanna see."

Reporting by Maja Pedersen

1

The VMAs: Where's the Biebs?

Now that I've had a full day to let the clusterf— that was this year's VMAs sink in (and to recover from the 24-hour hangover brought on by the magnum bottle of wine required to get through it), I have some questions (not the least of which is why they still carry on with this charade at all — next year let's just have a Knocked Up Teens Awards and call it a day).

And here's the first: Where was Justin Bieber? I can't be the only one who thought his dopey, overly coiffed absence was conspicuous. You guys, I DO NOT THINK HE WAS INVITED.

My God, if this isn't the swiftest fall from grace since Lindsay Lohan nosedived her career into a big pile of cocaine and regret, I don't know what is. Wasn't the little rugrat the unofficial star of last year's show? I repeat: I do not think that Justin Bieber was present at or even invited to the 2013 VMAs.

If he was, you wouldn't know it from MTV's coverage of the debacle, which was apparently expressly designed to give viewers alternate play-by-plays of exactly what the Smith family and Taylor Swift made of the whole thing.

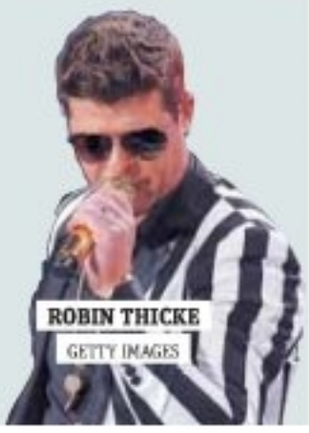
DID JUSTIN BIEBER'S INVITE TO THE VMAS GET LOST IN THE MAIL? / GETTY IMAGES

Don't get me wrong, I'm not mad at this. I'm moderately amused, at best. But if, as I suspect (hope), the Biebs was really not there, I wonder what he spent the night doing instead. I personally like to imagine he watched an edited tape of the show his camp had doctored to feature clips of his old performances, in his coziest underoos, from atop a throne made of Twizzlers and soiled tube socks. But that's my issue.

Opinion

What was the song of the summer?

Jenny McCarthy: "'Blurred Lines.' Because Robin Thicke is hot and it's so funny to dance to."



ROBIN THICKE GETTY IMAGES

THE WORD

Alexandra Cavallo takes on the world of gossip.

ALEXANDRA CAVALLO
@AlexCavallo

Dorothy Robinson will return Sept. 3.

Maybe if Taylor Swift, left, did a better job of covering her mouth, the whole world wouldn't know her opinion of ex-boyfriend Harry Styles. / GETTY IMAGES

Swift talks mad smack

I really don't want to give Taylor Swift any more press than she's already gobbling up (though she does need the sustenance, sister is skiiiiinny), but deference must be paid to the best moment caught on camera at the 2013 VMAs. One indeed better than Drake desperately trying to mentally transport himself somewhere else — anywhere else — during Miley's twerkpocalypse AND the Smith family's communal reaction to, well, everything.

I'm talking about Tay Sway not-so-discreetly telling ex-boyfriend and current male pop tart dujour Harry Styles to kindly STFU, of course.

You've all seen it by now (and if you haven't I suggest you stop reading this and go Google it). While Styles yaps on about Yeezus-knows-what (JK, I doubt he was listening either), Swift turns to Selena Gomez (I think. All these kids look the same to me) and says what cannot be lip read as anything but "shut the f— up."

I never thought the day would come that I would agree with anything that fell from the mouth of this particular babe so, you know, that was a thing.

'N Sync reunion?

I suspect this is not of the popular opinion, but I'm going to say it anyway: WTF was up with that "reunion"? That was not a reunion, that was a travesty.

I cried into my giant goblet of Merlot a little bit, thinking about Chris Kirkpatrick and Joey Fatone trying on their suits in the semi-wide trailer they now share, practicing the old dance moves and regaling each other with stories of how bright the future is looking now that the old gang is getting back together. So bright they'll need shades, I bet they said, chuckling.

And then, Timberlake let them out of their crates for, what, maybe 30 seconds? Just enough time for JC to sneak in a warbly "baby, baby, baby" for old time's sake, before they were ushered offstage and back into obscurity so Justin could get back to work forgetting they existed. At least Beyonce let Michelle and Kelly sing a whole song before she shut them down again.

I'm sort of crying right now.

JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE GETTY IMAGES

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Celebs. What you didn't see on camera at the VMAs

See more at www.metro.us

1 **Lady Gaga** is a diva and isn't afraid to show it: After her opening number — which started with a single camera closed in on her face — she took three bows with her dancers and was carried off stage by one of them.

2 **One Direction** may have won for the fan-voted Song of the Summer, but they got booed when they stepped up to the podium for their award. It didn't seem to ruin their night, though — they were dancing to **Drake**'s performance and chatting it up with **Rihanna** from their seats back in the audience.

3 **Taylor Swift** was caught on camera muttering "Shut the f— up" when her ex **Harry Styles** presented, but she did give a polite clap when his group **One Direction** took home the Moonman for Song of the Summer.

4 The hotly-anticipated **'N Sync** reunion did indeed happen, but poor **Chris Kirkpatrick** still can't catch a break. After the group's 90-second number, trap doors were supposed to open underneath and lower the men down. Kirkpatrick's malfunctioned, however, leaving him standing on stage solo for a little while, waving awkwardly. He finally accepted defeat, crouched and leaped down one of the other working doors. Which is sadder: that, or **J.C. Chasez** trying to one-up **Justin Timberlake** with a post-medley "Baby, baby, baby"? (Google it!)

5 While the camera closed on **Robin Thicke** at the end of his racy duet with **Miley Cyrus**, what you didn't see on TV was one final big crotch-grab from the former Hannah Montana.

6 **Katy Perry** let out a big "Roar" from the Brooklyn Bridge for the show's finale, but attendees at the Barclays Center weren't all feeling it — many got a head start out of the arena while her performance blared across the jumbo screens. **MEREDITH ENGEL/GETTY IMAGES**

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GETTY IMAGES

WONG KAR-WAI

The legendary filmmaker talks about the cost of martial arts and the Hollywood invasion.

TEACHING BRUCE LEE

Chinese filmmaker Wong Kar-wai takes a fantastical look at the history of his nation through the lens of martial arts with "The Grandmaster," a film about Ip Man (Tony Leung), the father of modern kung fu who eventually taught Bruce Lee. But first, according to the film, he had to wrestle with China's changing political climate and go through a lot of gorgeously staged fights.

This film is "inspired by a true story." How much historical accuracy did you go for?

It's quite accurate. The only thing I invented was the character of Gong Er (played by Zhang Ziyi). But, in fact, this character is based on several remarkable women at that time.

The film examines how kung fu used to be incredibly exclusionary, solely an upper-class pursuit.

In the traditional sense, martial arts were not for poor people. You needed to be extremely wealthy because you couldn't do anything else. You had to practice — like, they had specific hours, like 3 o'clock in the morning and then 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Not too hot, not too cold. And then there are so many formalities. People visit you, you have to have a big party. When they leave, you have to send them with gifts.

Quoted

"Now we see very clearly that the film industry cannot rely on a single market. Even for a Hollywood film, they cannot live on the domestic market alone. They need the international markets."

Kar-wai, on the rising importance of the global audience

How do you think it's changed?

Today it's a different skill. When I was doing the research I found they're not very wealthy people, but once you visit them in their town they take care of everything. They will feed you and always treat you with hospitality. Because the thing is, they are very humble, very cautious, because they know what they have is a weapon. So they are very careful, they don't want to make enemies.

What does the Chinese film industry make of Hollywood films like "Iron Man 3" participating more with the country's filmmaking world and audience? A welcome growth or a threat?

I always find it very silly to say, "as we are invaded by Hollywood," because we've been in this business for a long time. The only thing that's important is to keep the audience coming back. Today is not like 10 or 15 years ago. They can look at a lot of things on cell phones or computers, so watching at the cinema is not their only option. So it's good to have different genres of film.

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Back to school? Nah! Back to book club? Yeah!

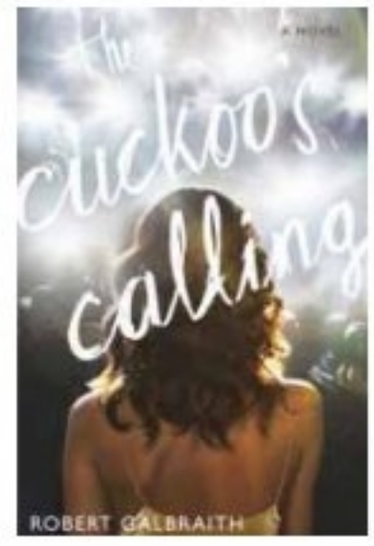
Roundup. Return from your mental vacation with these titillating titles.

Sure, we love the wine and the camaraderie, but among the top pleasures of a good book club discussion is having a great book to rave about or ravage through lively debate. This fall's lineup of top reading-group-ready books brings us new novels by Elizabeth Gilbert, Jhumpa Lahiri and Stephen King.

Here, we short list the top reads sure to get your book group's conversation flowing, whether you're eager to discuss family, faith, politics, parenthood, celebrity or coming-of-age.

'The Cuckoo's Calling'

Fame and anonymity: This summer, readers were treated to an intriguing meta-mystery: The secret identity of the author of a crime thriller called "The Cuckoo's Calling" was revealed to be none other than J.K. Rowling, the mega-bestselling author of the "Harry Potter" series and "The Casual Vacancy." The revelation sent readers and critics poring through the book to detect clues that author "Robert Galbraith" left to his real identity, one of whom noted that the book — about the investigation of a fashion model's death — takes on "the pressures of celebrity and fame (something both Ms. Rowling and Harry Potter know quite a bit about)." Reading groups will enjoy tracking the similarities between "Cuckoo" and Rowling's previous books, while discussing whether we as a society take our obsession with celebrity too far.



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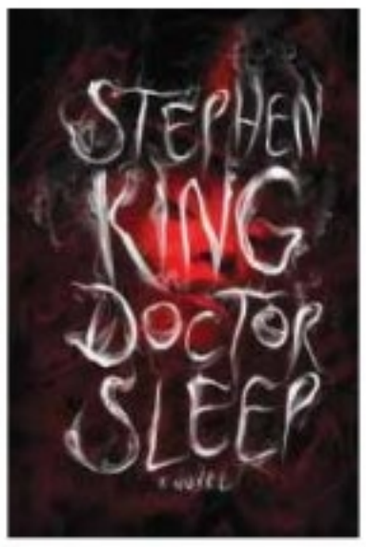


'Doctor Sleep'

Ghosts of the past — and present: There's nothing like a highly anticipated sequel to spark discussion: Does the second book live up to the first? Does it stand on its own, or is the author going back to the same well only to come up dry? When a sequel is 25 years in the making, our expectations may be heightened to fever pitch, as it is with "Doctor Sleep," Stephen King's much-anticipated follow-up to his 1977 horror classic, "The Shining." Now in middle age and tormented by ghosts of the past, Danny Torrance has earned the nickname "Doctor Sleep" by using his second sight — "the shine" — to comfort the dying.

'The Signature of All Things'

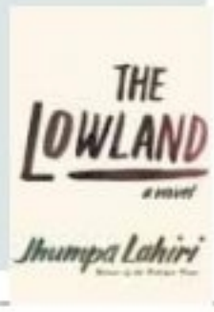
The search for enlightenment: Award-winning novelist, memoirist, journalist and biographer Elizabeth Gilbert is best known for her best-seller — and book-club favorite — "Eat, Pray, Love." This October, 12 years after her previous novel, "Stern Men," Gilbert returns to fiction in "The Signature of All Things," a historical novel spanning the 18th and 19th centuries from the Enlightenment to the Industrial Revolution. A science-obsessed woman falls in love with a naturalist and painter. She learns all about the spiritual world and just as "EPL" took Gilbert around the world in search of meaning, "The Signature" follows characters seeking the inner workings of life.

NATHAN ROSTRON FOR BOOKish

Your brother's keeper

'The Lowland' by Jhumpa Lahiri

Another new fall novel sure to generate discussion is the next book from "The Namesake" and "Interpreter of Maladies" author Jhumpa Lahiri. "The Lowland" is about two brothers born in Calcutta, Subhash and Udayan, who are like two sides of the same coin — opposite, but bound together. Udayan is full of revolutionary fervor, determined to fight class inequality in India, while Subhash is content with quieter, scientific pursuits in America. Udayan's passion leads him to dangerous places, and eventually Subhash must return home to try to heal his family. Which brother do you identify with? Discuss it with your book club!



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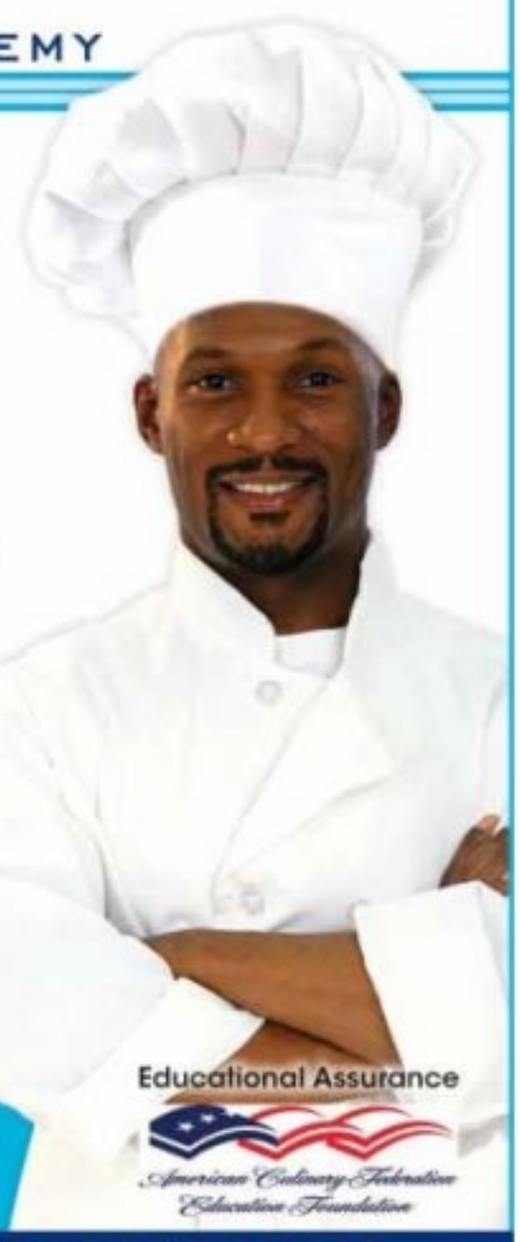

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So long, sweet summer

Ah, summer, we hardly knew you. It feels like the hazy days of the season just got into full swing and yet, somehow, autumn is just around the corner. Soon enough, the only use we'll have for our beach towels will be to help dry our tears. But don't start packing up your flip-flops and bikinis just yet! This Labor Day weekend, tons of resorts and hotels are offering can't-beat specials and getaway packages that should provide some much-needed, last-ditch vacation fun to help ease you into fall.

Don't labor over your plans for this weekend

Getaways. These last-minute deals will help you make the most of the final days of summer.

This could be you this weekend, and for less than you think. / GETTY IMAGES

Palladium Hotel Group

It's not too late to hit a foreign beach this season. Book a trip to Riviera Nayarit, Mexico, at either Grand Palladium Vallarta Resort & Spa or the Royal Suites Punta Mita, where you can sip adult beverages while lounging on your own personal parcel of 200 miles of beaches. If you book online for a last-minute Labor Day weekend trip, you'll save 40 percent. This is an adults-only trip, so leave the kids with a sitter.

Would you rather get a little farther off the grid? Palladium is also offering deals in the Caribbean. Crystal-clear blue seas as far as the eye can see and stone-white beaches — this should help to make the summer-to-fall transition just a bit smoother. Book online and save 30 percent at Grand Palladium Punta Cana Resort & Spa or Grand Palladium Palace Resort Spa & Casino in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic.

Fontainebleau Miami Beach

Prefer to end summer with a bang? The Fontainebleau Miami Beach's BleauLive experience heralds in fall with a special performance by Robin Thicke and Pharrell Williams. On Sunday, the "Blurred Lines" collaborators will perform solo sets, followed by a performance of the aforementioned mega summer jam. The BleauLive Labor Day weekend package starts at $369 per night and includes luxe accommodations, two passes to the big show (plus a two-hour open bar), access to a pre-show blowout pool party on Saturday, discounted cocktails at the resort's poolside lounge all weekend and much more. And, if you want to feel like a rock star yourself this weekend, upgrade your stay for the VIP experience, which includes a meet-and-greet with Thicke and Williams.

Fairmont Scottsdale Princess

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Beards, mustaches and the perfect shave

Skin care. Find out the latest trends in men's grooming.

It's no secret that women love beauty products — just check out our bathroom shelves. However, a recent surge in men's skin care items proves that guys want to be as well-groomed as their female counterparts. In 2011, more than $964 million was spent in department stores on men's products, and the demand seems to be growing. We talked to Mr. Bee, head barber at New York's Frank's Chop Shop and a Dove spokesman, about why so many guys sport handlebar mustaches and how to get the perfect shave.

Wash your face with warm water and a gentle cleanser before shaving, advises Mr. Bee. / FUSE

What is one major misconception about men's grooming?
Men often assume that their grooming routines have to be painful, which simply isn't true. Every day men are torturing their faces by washing with soap, applying alcohol-rich aftershaves and overlooking the needs of their skin, which contribute to a man's face looking worn, tired and neglected.

What are some of the biggest trends in men's grooming that you've noticed?
For the face, there's definitely been a renaissance of mustaches. Men have been rocking more late 1800s-, early 1900s-style mustaches. [They're] using mustache wax to create those twisted corners, also known as the handlebar mustache. As for hairstyles, I have seen the return of the "Mad Men" style — the edges are very groomed, but there's more hair on top — giving guys more freedom when styling. During the week this style can be groomed neatly for work, while on the weekends guys can let it loose and sport a more relaxed look.

Today we're seeing more guys sporting beards. Why?
I feel like in terms of style, whether it is hair, facial hair or fashion, everything comes full circle. There will always be a time when something old is back in vogue. Today, I think we're moving away from the stringent, clean-shaven, corporate look — people are loosening up. What may have been frowned upon 10 years ago is acceptable today. We are at a time where guys are able to express themselves more freely than ever before, and that has manifested into more men sporting beards, mustaches, goatees, etc.

Mr. Bee says "Mad Men" style hair is big these days. / PROVIDED

How can guys get the perfect shave?
Every guy should know the key to a good shave is preparation, not necessarily what tools he's using. Preparation includes washing your face with warm water and a gentle cleanser, like the Dove Men+Care Hydrate face wash, and then getting the skin tender with a hot towel that has been soaked in pre-shave oils. This will also help to open the pores and lift the hair follicles so the hair will come off smoothly.

COURTNEY M. FOWLER
letters@metro.us

Product picks

His top three

1 "An **alcohol-free astringent** to apply after shaving."

2 "A **post-shave balm** to follow the astringent, such as the Dove Men+Care Hydrate post-shave balm, as it really helps relieve irritation and also soothes skin."

3 "For those with facial hair, I'd suggest investing in a **natural beard oil**. This will help to retain the moisture in your beard."

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Life lesson. One woman finds out the truth about foster care.

Adopting a teen at 28

Why does Cris Beam think you should foster a child? "You do it because there's a need," she says. / JULIEN CAPMEIL

Cris Beam was a 28-year-old high school teacher when she took in a 17-year-old student who had been kicked out of a group home and was headed to juvenile hall — not because she had committed a crime, but because there was just no room for her.

"I didn't have any experience," says Beam about her foster care experience, "but I loved this kid, and she and I kind of figured it out together."

As many people try desperately to have their own biological children, Beam tells Metro that another option is often overlooked.

"There are wonderful kids right here, all the time, right in your neighborhood, that need homes," she says.

She dives deeper into the subject, along with her own experience as a foster mother, in her new book, "To the End of June: The Intimate Life of American Foster Care."

A rewarding choice

Potential parents might picture the horrors of teenager-itis and their notoriously difficult attitudes — but think again, Beam says, because fostering a teenager can actually be a surprisingly positive experience.

"What I found is that having a teenager can be really great," says Beam. "It's rewarding because teenagers are funny, and these are kids that have lived very rich and resilient lives, so they have a lot to teach us about survival."

Beam admits that most times, the reward takes time, but by then, "You have a family, you have this person in your life that really loves you back," she says. "I was surprised at how deep the bond grew and how quickly with my daughter."

Why foster a child?

"You do it because there's a need," Beam simply states.

According to Beam, as children are removed from their homes, they suffer a traumatic experience and need to grieve their loss.

"We were all 18 once, we've all been broken-hearted, we've all lost jobs, we've all struggled. And what do we need? We need help, we need people to help us," explains Beam.

"What they need is a family," she adds. "We all need somebody to lean on for life."

Get the truth

Being a foster parent isn't the most talked-about subject, but that may be in part due to the numerous victims of its misconceptions.

"I think that there's a misconception that the kids are really damaged," explains Beam. "When you get inside [the foster care system], you see that it's all human beings, and if you stick with them, they're all kids just like any other kids."

So, she suggests, don't forget about the kids that are right in your community, the kids that could be your family.

"I think we're so used to thinking of foster care as 'other' and that's a really dangerous proposition," says Beam. "There's a tremendous number of kids, and there's tremendous diversity, so it can be hard, but having a kid is hard. Love is hard."

JULIE KAYZERMAN
letters@metro.us

Horoscope

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. You will discover information that will help you get something you want. Your insight will give you an edge in spotting trends.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. Before you agree to help someone, make sure that you can deliver. A change in the way you do things will show your value.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. You'll be able to use information to get ahead or to make a quick and necessary decision that sends others running. You'll be a leader today.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. Your heart might be in the right place, but your logic isn't. Before wasting time or money, do the research required to make a good choice.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan 20. Consider a deal that could greatly add to your financial resources. A relationship change will end up being for the best.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb 18. It's a good cycle in which to change your life for the better. Discipline and hard work will pay off if you apply them.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Ask questions concerning an emotional situation. Clearing up matters must be done diplomatically.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. Keep a watch on your wallet today. If you're not careful, you'll spend more than you intend. You may need to keep your distance from someone who has ulterior motives.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. All work and no play will not help you get ahead. Mix business with pleasure and you will earn the respect you need to succeed.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20. You don't have to spend a lot to make self-improvements. Set a routine that will get you results without a high cost.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22. Both your discipline and your imagination will come in handy. It's a good time to make a pitch.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. Mingle and enjoy the company of people who are from different backgrounds. New perspectives and attitudes will bring you a new lease on life.

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Sudoku: Easy and hard

		2		5	6	1	8	
1		6		3				
								5
5	7		2			3		
2		3		1		8		7
		9			5		1	2
4								
				8		5		3
	6	8	5	9		7		

					3	2		
			4	6	8		7	3
	3		2				8	
5					9		3	4
		6		3		5		
3	8		1					7
	9				5		6	
4	6		9	1	2			
		1	3					

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Letters

Give more vacations to Congress

Congress adjourning and leaving Washington for a five-week recess is actually great news. Our civil and economic liberties are continually at risk when any legislative body is in session. Officials on a bipartisan basis routinely pass legislation to increase spending, taxes, borrowing and deficits. They also pass bills benefiting their "pay for play" contributors, funding pork barrel member items along with new rules and regulations infringing on our day-to-day lives. When Congress is not working, they can't cause mischief and grief for the rest of us. I wish they would stay home even longer.

LARRY PENNER, VIA EMAIL

Madonna deserves an immaculate reception

Re: 'Material grill' (Metro, Aug. 26)
Alexandra Cavallo, did you know (and as a gossip columnist I hope you would) that Madonna is the highest-grossing entertainer of 2013, according to Forbes? So maybe you should take some tips from her and cut Madge some slack.

SETH BROWN, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

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Crossword

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1 Quick look
7 Navigation aid
10 Prompted
14 Esteem
15 Stein filler
16 2013 Best Picture winner
17 Figure out
18 British title
19 Polynesian staple
20 Errol Flynn persona
23 Praline nut
26 Grass-skirt accessory
27 Shoppers' guides
28 Island near Kauai
29 Kind of student
30 Bon Jovi of rock
31 Opposite of sm.
32 Nay opposite
33 Droopy-eared hounds
37 Always, to Keats
38 Gym iteration
39 Compass dir.
40 Skip stones
41 No-iron (hyph.)
43 Old PC acronym
44 Brownie's org.
45 Lo- — graphics
46 Marshy tract
47 Fiberglass bundle
48 Dainty, perhaps
51 Resinous deposit
52 Blisters
53 Restaurant amenity (2 wds.)
56 Graph part
57 Bobby of hockey
58 Feasible
62 Bumper mishap
63 Eggs, to Ovid
64 Skillful
65 Joule fractions
66 Disdainful snort
67 Noxious weed

Down
1 Menacing sound
2 Jamie — Curtis
3 Ottoman title
4 Bahamas' capital
5 Queen topper
6 Ferber or Best
7 Pulped
8 Cover story
9 Where Cuzco is
10 Willow features
11 Europe-Asia divider
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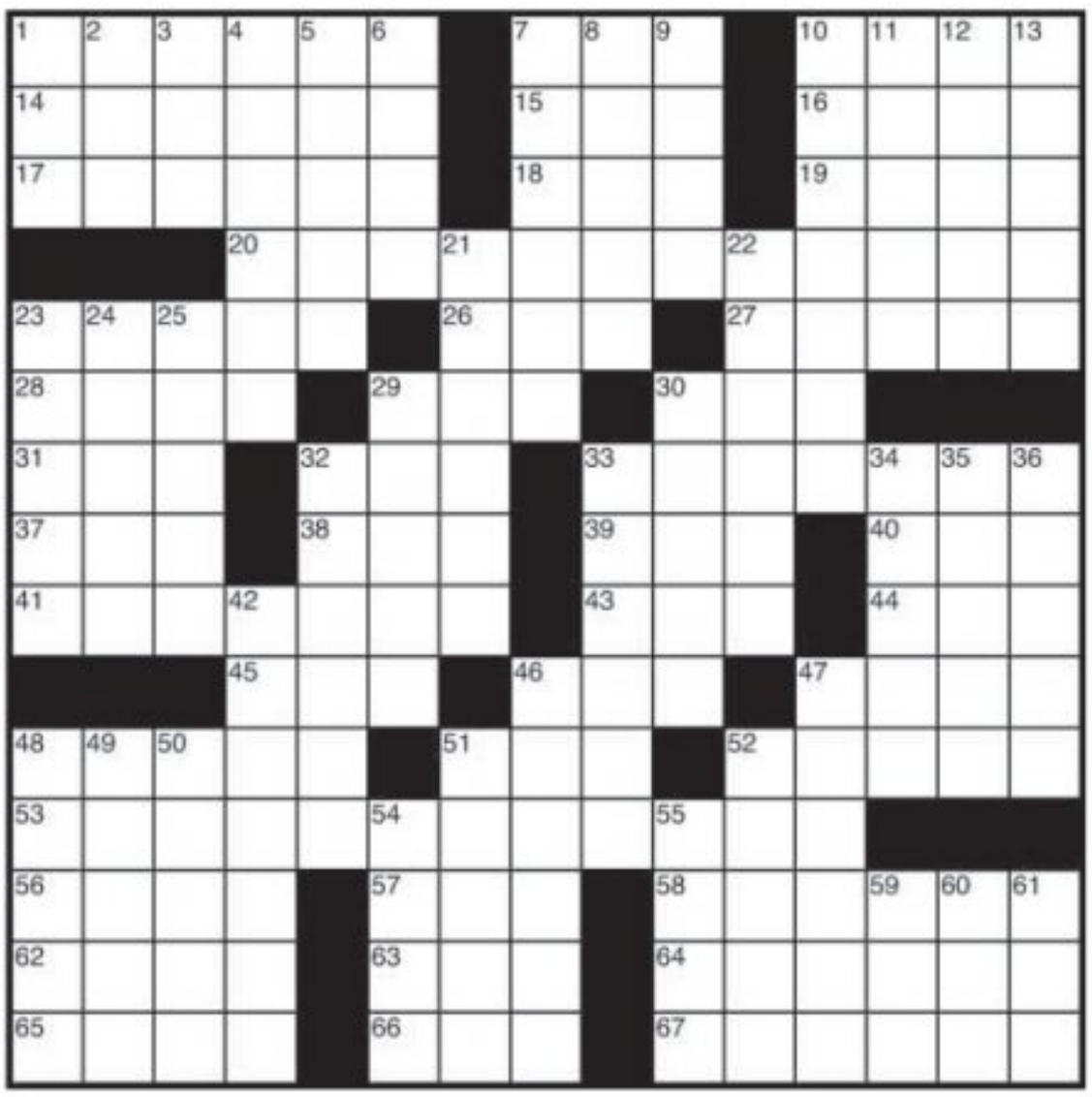
22 Finalizes, as a deal
23 Steered a raft
24 Rah-rah
25 Darling, in Dijon
29 Fort —, Florida
30 "Friday the 13th" villain
32 Impassioned
33 Adorn
34 Whodunit award
35 Sample
36 Tiffs
42 Druids and shamans
46 Ms. Fawcett
47 He married Bacall
48 Dodge, as taxes
49 More permissive
50 Throw angrily
51 Cocoon dweller
52 Catty
54 Tigger's pal
55 A Karamazov
59 Plant sci.
60 — Abner
61 Nice summer



Yesterday's answer

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3 SPORTS

MLB

Wells out with bad vision

The Phillies placed outfielder Casper Wells on the 15-day DL yesterday with vision complications. The news comes days after Wells went 0-for-7 with four strikeouts against Arizona and allowed five earned runs in emergency pitching duty. The team also recalled utility player Pete Orr from Triple-A Lehigh. Ryan Howard was officially shut down for the season.

Eagles to sit offensive starters, not defensive

NFL. Chip Kelly has seen enough of the offense, but there are decisions to make on defense.

No matter your opinion on the Eagles' performance in Jacksonville — and the consensus is that it wasn't good — put it in the rearview mirror. That was the final dress rehearsal before the season opener, as Chip Kelly will rest his starters in the final preseason game.

"Our starters will not play, although in the secondary we may have to have one or two just because of the injuries at that point in time," Kelly said.

Nick Foles and Matt Barkley will take the majority of snaps at quarterback. Mike Vick will not play.

Kelly has seen enough out of his offense. The team will turn its attention on the defense against the Jets. The coach admitted that he is a little concerned about the secondary, which has been riddled with injuries and generally hasn't looked good through three preseason games.

Safety Patrick Chung has been the only player impressive enough to earn the night off. Nate Allen and Earl Wolff are competing for the second safety spot.

Cary Williams and Bradley Fletcher are the projected starting corners, but injuries to Curtis Marsh and Brandon Hughes will likely force them into action Thursday.

"We are concerned. With three of those guys going out, that's where postgame on Thursday will be a big day in terms of what becomes available," Kelly said. "But our whole thought is we've got to play with what we've got. So that is a concern when you have three guys at the same position out right now."

The final game is sometimes meaningless, except for players on the bubble. For the Eagles, with final cuts due Saturday, this one carries extra weight. There are many evaluations left for the coaching staff in the coming days.

MICHAEL GREGER
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Rookie Earl Wolff is still in the mix for a starting safety spot. / GETTY IMAGES

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Potential far outweighs Brown's risk

NFL. The back was injured at practice, but he shouldn't miss any time.

Bryce Brown may have dodged a bullet yesterday after a lineman stepped on his foot. The second-year running back limped off the practice field with the help of trainers. However, it wasn't anything serious.

Brown was one of the brightest spots in the preseason win over Jacksonville Aug. 24, rushing for 92 yards. The fumble? Well, coach Chip Kelly didn't seem too worried.

"I know it's been an issue here in the past," Kelly said. "On that particular play, their defensive back put [his] hat on the football. He did have the football tight against his side."

MICHAEL GREGER
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Brown had 92 yards on 11 carries against Jacksonville. / GETTY IMAGES

Cardinals

Top pick breaks leg

Arizona lost first-round pick Jonathan Cooper for 10 to 12 weeks after he broke his leg last weekend.

Cooper, the No. 7 overall pick, had been expected to start at left guard. METRO

Bills

Tuel tabbed Bills starter

The Bills will start undrafted rookie Jeff Tuel at quarterback in the season opener vs. the Patriots.

Buffalo had been banking on Kevin Kolb or E.J. Manuel to win the job, but both are injured. METRO

Jets

Sanchez out, Smith in?

Mark Sanchez won't practice this week due to a shoulder injury.

Jets coach Rex Ryan hasn't named Geno Smith the starter, and it's unclear if he'll play Thursday. If not, Greg McElroy and Matt Simms will go. METRO

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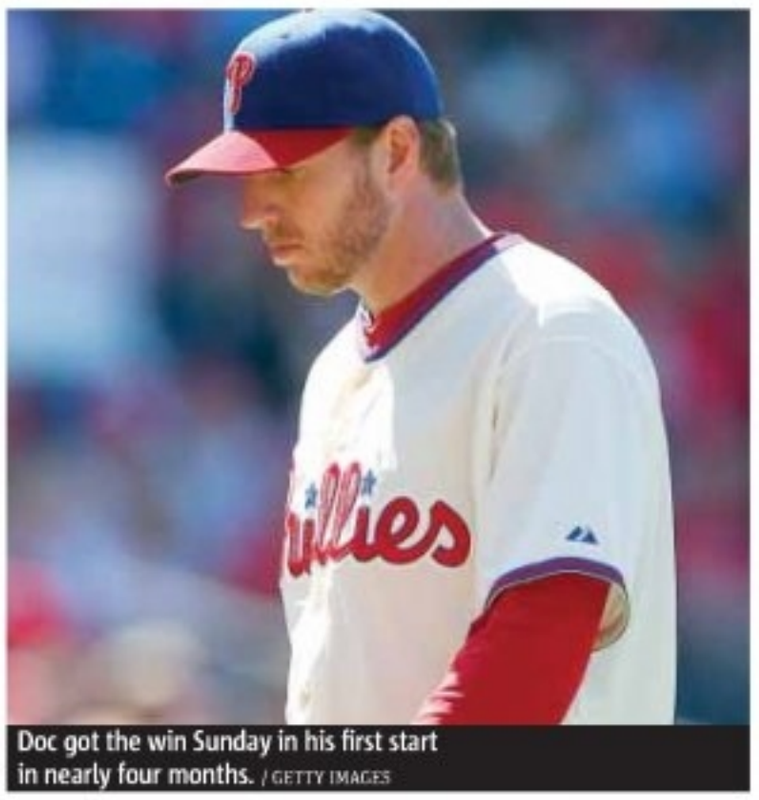
Halladay focused on what he can control

MLB. The former Phillies ace is still aiming for the World Series despite his age and recent injury.


Doc got the win Sunday in his first start in nearly four months. / GETTY IMAGES

The Phillies have a million questions heading into the offseason. Perhaps the biggest one involves former ace Roy Halladay.

Halladay is set to become a free agent after the season. A few months ago, it seemed like a wise move to let the right-hander ride off into the sunset.

Now, after six strong innings Sunday afternoon, the wheels have to be turning inside general manager Ruben Amaro Jr.'s head. Halladay looks like he can still compete at the highest level, and he has always maintained his preference is to remain in red pinstripes.

"I don't want to play anywhere else," Halladay told reporters back in February. "This has been the best place I've ever played."

The pitcher hasn't backed down from those comments, but he also has to be realistic.

Halladay is 35 now, with an alarming number of recent injuries and poor performances on his stellar resume. That doesn't mean he can't still be a difference-maker. Natural ability just doesn't vanish.

Or does it? Even Halladay knows the past is the past.

"I just want to win games and win a World Series," Halladay said. "You always have to look forward, you can't ever look back. I'm not trying to replicate anything I've done in the past. I'm trying to help [us] win and hopefully get a chance, at some point, to win a World Series."

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Notices

Legal Notices

Summons
In The Probate Court
State of South Carolina
County of Richard
In the Matter of the Estate of
William Smith, JR.
Case Number: 2012 ES40 00547

To: Dana Smith and William Smith

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Petition in action regarding the Estate of William Smith, Jr. action, a co APP03069py of which was filed in the Richland County Probate Court on October 10, 2012 and are hereby served upon you by publication and to serve a copy of your Answer to Rachel A. Dain, P.O. Box 212654, Columbia, SC 29221, within (30) days after the service hereof upon you, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the Petition within the time aforesaid, the Petitioner in this action will apply to the Court for the relief as requested in the Petition.

Rachel A. Dain
P.O. Box 212654
Columbia, SC 29221
Petition for Formal Appointment
Petitioner: Gloria Sealy
Case Name: William Smith
Date of Birth: July 8, 1937
Date of Filing: October 10, 2012

Notice of Hearing
Date: October 18, 2013
Time: 2:00 PM
Place: Courtroom 2-F, Richland County Judicial Center, 1701 Main Street Street, Columbia, SC 29201
Whereas, the Petitioner is unable to locate and serve DANA SMITH AND WILLIAM SMITH
NOW THEREFORE, DANA SMITH AND WILLIAM SMITH are summoned to be and appear before Judge Amy W. McCulloch at Columbia, SC on October 18, 2013 at 2:00 PM to show cause why Gloria Sealy should not be granted the relief requested in her Petion. A full copy of the Summons and Petition are available from the above-named attorney. If you do not appear at the hearing or file an Answer, the relief requested will most likely be granted.

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